

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants traverse the restriction requirement and provisionally elected to proceed with Group I claims, claims 1-14, drawn to a monolithic structure. Claims 15-24 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims of Groups II through VI prior to termination of proceedings in this patent application.

Claims 25-32 have been added. Claims 1-14 and 25-32 are pending. Applicants submit that claims 25-32 are drawn to a monolithic structure similar to the elected Group I claims. Accordingly, Applicants request entry and examination of claims 25-32 along with the elected Group I claims.

Applicants look forward to receiving an Office Action on the merits. Should the Examiner find that a telephonic or personal interview would expedite passage to issue of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below. If any additional fees are required or if an overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

May 19, 2003


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